

As this Address, Fellow citizens,
will be the last I shall ever make to you, and
as some of the Gazetteers of the United States have
teemed with all the Inveective that disappointment,
ignorance of facts, and malicious
falsehoods could invent, to misrepresent my
politics & affections;— to wound my reputation
and feelings;— and to weaken, if not entirely
to destroy the confidence you had been pleased
to repose in me; it might be expected at the
parting scene of my public life that I should take
some notice of such virulent abuse. But,
as heretofore, I shall pass them over in utter
silence; never having myself, nor by any
other with my participation or knowledge,
written or published a scrap in answer to any
of them. — My politics have been uncon-
cealed, plain and direct. — They will be found
(so far as they relate to the Belligerent Power)
in the Proclamation of the 22 of April 1793;
which, having met your approbation, and
the confirmation of Congress, I have uniformly
& steadily adhered to ~~them~~ — uninfluenced by,
and regardless of, ^{complaints &} the attempts of any of ~~them~~
^{or their partisans} powers to change them. —

President Washington's Farewell Address (1796)

Original manuscript in Washington's handwriting of one of the most famous documents of American history. In the management of government he urged the preservation of public credit. He did not, however, advocate unwise economies, for he noted "timely disbursements to prepare for danger frequently prevent much greater disbursements to repel it."

(CONTINUED OPPOSITE SIDE)

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